PROPOSAL EVALUATION

IRWM Grant Program – Planning Grant, Round 1, FY 2010-2011

ApplicantRegional Water ManagementCountySanta CruzFoundationGrant Request\$999,750Project TitleSanta Cruz IRWM Prop 84Total Project Cost\$1,507,358

Regional Planning Grant

<u>Project Description</u> The grant would support an update to the existing IRWMP and to ensure consistency with the state's new IRWM Plan Standards. There are also four proposed technical studies in the work plan that will provide critical data needed to identify and evaluate resource management strategies to address the water resource challenges facing the Region. The four studies include: Aromas and Purisima Groundwater Basin Management Study; Santa Margarita Groundwater Model Update; Conjunctive Use and Water Transfers (Phase II); and Watsonville Sloughs Hydrologic Study.

Evaluation Summary

Scoring Criterion	Score
Work Plan	15
DAC Involvement	8
Schedule	6
Budget	10
Program Preferences	10
Geographic Balance	0
Total Score	49

- ➤ Work Plan The work plan fully addresses the criteria, is well documented and supported by adequate documentation and rationale. The application makes clear that the region has a number of significant problems such as sea water intrusion, groundwater depletion and diminished water supply, stream base flow lowering and subsequent impacts to endangered species, flood impacts to land owners and watersheds, water quality issues, drinking water quality, and supply issues.
- ➤ <u>DAC Involvement</u> The work plan presents the DAC involvement to date. Task 20 in the work plan solidifies the outreach efforts the IRWM region is going to undertake to continue to involve DACs and Tribal communities. The proposal demonstrates a focused and concerted effort for DAC.
- Schedule The schedule corresponds with the tasks in the work plan. The majority of the schedule is consistent and reasonable. However, the schedule shows adoption of the plan well before some of the technical studies are scheduled to be completed.
- **<u>Budget</u>** The proposal provides a summary budget as well as a detailed budget for each plan task. The tasks and costs in the budget match with those in the work plan. Cost estimates are reasonable given the breadth of the studies involved.
- ➤ <u>Program Preference</u> The work plan shows how the existing and proposed IRWM Plan meets statewide priorities and program preferences. Overall the proposal meets more than 10 preferences/priorities including: include regional projects, effectively integrate water mgmt programs and project w/in hydro region, effectively resolve water conflicts w/in region, contribute to one or more CALFED Bay-Delta objectives, address critical water supply/quality needs of DACs, climate change response actions, expand environmental stewardship, practice integrated flood management, protect surface water and groundwater quality, and ensure equitable distribution of benefits.
- Geographic Balance Not Applicable